

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District
Proudly presents its 65th Annual

Stairway of the Stars 2014

Choir, Band, and Orchestra Concerts

All concerts at 7 PM, Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School

Choir Concert – Friday, February 7, 2014

Albert J. McNeil, Guest Conductor

Nell Walker and Michael Wright, soloists

Band Concert – Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Thomas Lee, Guest Conductor

John Beasley, soloist

Orchestra Concert – Thursday, February 13, 2014

Bruce Kiesling, Guest Conductor

The Beasley Family

Stairway Award Recipient

Sandra Lyon

Superintendent

Tom Whaley

Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

Brenda Carrillo

Educational Services, Visual and Performing Arts

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PROGRAM

Welcome

Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

Combined Choirs

The Star-Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key and John Stafford Smith
Tom Whaley, Conductor *Inna Ganelis, Accompanist*
 Stairway to the Stars Malby Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier
Inna Ganelis, Accompanist

Introductions

Sandra Lyon, Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Choir

Down by the Riverside arr. Jay Althouse
Susan Justin, Conductor *Jessi Spike-Gravelle, Accompanist*
 Follow the Drinking Gourd arr. Andre J. Thomas
Jessi Spike-Gravelle, Conductor *Susan Justin, Accompanist*
Norma LaTuchie, flute

Introduction of Guest Conductor Albert J. McNeil

Dr. Terry Deloria, Assistant Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Choir

Do, Lord, Remember Me arr. Andre J. Thomas
Albert McNeil, Conductor *Jessi Spike-Gravelle, Accompanist*

Elementary and Middle School Choirs

Yonder Come Day arr. Judith Cook Tucker
Lindsay Quiroz, Conductor
 Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel arr. Roger Emerson
Amy Loch, Conductor *Joellen McNaughton, Accompanist*

Middle School Choirs

Keep Your Lamps arr. Andre J. Thomas
Vanessa Counte, Conductor *Nate Comay and Paloma Nicholas, drums*
 O, Mary Don't You Weep arr. Albert J. McNeil
Albert J. McNeil, Conductor

Stairway Award – The Beasley Family

Presented by Maria Leon-Vazquez, President, SMMUSD Board of Education

Middle and High School Choirs (Women)

Summertime George Gershwin and Dubose Heyward

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Choir Program, continued from page 3

Cecile Blanchard, Conductor

Middle and High School Choirs (Men)

Deep River arr. Noble Cain
Jeffé Huls, Conductor *Inna Ganelis, Accompanist*

High School Choirs

My Long White Robe arr. Albert J. McNeil
Albert J. McNeil, Conductor
Nell Walker and Michael Wright, soloists, Jubilee Singers

Hallelujah arr. Robert DeCormier
Albert J. McNeil, Conductor
Michael Wright, soloist, Jubilee Singers

Guest Conductor's Remarks – Albert J. McNeil

Introduced by Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

Elementary, Middle, and High School Choirs

Praise the Lord Mary Lou Williams
Albert J. McNeil, Conductor *Joellen McNaughton, Accompanist*
Robben Bixler, bass, and Zach Gotler, drums

Stairway to the Stars Malby Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier
Inna Ganelis, Accompanist

Guest Soloists



Nell Walker, soprano



Michael Wright, tenor

PROGRAM NOTES

“Down by the Riverside” arranged by Jay Althouse – Also known as “Ain’t Gonna Study War No More” and “Gonna lay down my burden,” this is a gospel song. It was first published in *Plantation Melodies: A Collection of Modern, Popular and Old-time Negro-Songs of the Southland* in 1918. The song was first recorded by the Fisk University Jubilee Quartet in 1920, and at least 14 black gospel recordings of it were made before World War II.

“Follow the Drinking Gourd” arranged by Andre J. Thomas – This powerful arrangement of the traditional underground railroad map song features beautiful part writing, dynamic contrasts, and an exhilarating ending. Taken at face value, the “drinking gourd” refers to hollowed out gourds used as water dippers in rural America. But here it was used as a code name for the Big Dipper star formation, which points to Polaris, the Pole Star, and North. These directions enabled fleeing slaves to make their way north to the Ohio River and freedom. The song was first published in 1928.

“Do, Lord, Remember Me” arranged by Andre J. Thomas – The traditional spiritual is presented here in a rousing, joyful concert setting. From the first slave auction in 1655, to the publication of the first slave autobiography in London in 1789, the voices of the American slaves were silent. Since then, they have risen in glorious song and courageous speech to tell the tales of those who have endured slavery. In the 1930’s, President Roosevelt asked the Federal Writer’s Project to go out and interview the last generation of Americans born in slavery, who were then in their eighties, nineties, or even older. The arranger of this song, Dr. Thomas, is Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Choral Music Education at Florida State University.

“Yonder Come Day” arranged by Judith Cook Tucker – This arrangement is based on a traditional Georgia Sea Islands spiritual. More than 250 years ago, plantation owners began importing slaves from West Africa to the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina. The slaves endured extreme hardship and injustice on the rice plantations. Isolated from the mainland on the humid, mosquito-ridden islands, however, the slaves were able to more freely preserve their ethnic traditions. The blend of language and culture that survived and evolved is known as “Gullah.” Folklorist Alan Lomax first visited the island in 1935, accompanied by author Zora Neale Hurston. Bill Moyers calls the Gullah culture “a heritage so rich no price tag can measure its value.”

“Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel” arranged by Roger Emerson – This spiritual originated during the era of African American slavery, and related their slavery to the Hebrew

slaves in ancient Egypt. The chorus asks the rhetorical question, “Didn’t my Lord deliver Daniel...” making reference to the story of Daniel in the Lion’s Den, as told in the Old Testament. The individual verses tell a story of deliverance from different types of oppressors. The final verse says, “It landed me over on Canaan’s shore...” referring to the Hebrews’ deliverance from the Egyptians into Canaan, “a land flowing with milk and honey.” It expressed the slaves’ hope in their eventual freedom.

“Keep Your Lamps” arranged by Andre J. Thomas – This exciting arrangement of the spiritual is accompanied by high, medium and low conga drums. The lyric is both biblical and subversive. It speaks of lamps trimmed and burning, as in the reference to Matthew 25, but the secondary meaning is that we are preparing to escape, and you must be ready. “*The time is drawing nigh.*” Slaves were sending messages from one plantation to the other, right under the noses of their owners and, in fact, organizing insurrections. Since so many others means of communication were denied to them, they learned how to communicate through songs.

“O, Mary Don’t You Weep” arranged by Albert J. McNeil – This spiritual contains coded messages of hope and resistance. It tells the Biblical story of Mary of Bethany’s pleas to Jesus to raise her brother Lazarus from the dead. It also includes the story from the Book of Exodus about the crossing of the Red Sea, with the chorus proclaiming “*Pharaoh’s army got drown-ded!*,” as well as describing God’s rainbow covenant to Noah after the Great Flood. The Fisk Jubilee Singers recorded the song in 1915, and it became popular again during the 1950s. The melody was also used for a song chronicling the victories of the Civil Rights movement, “If You Miss Me from the Back of the Bus.” A new recording of the song became a hit in 1959, and the phrase “I’ll be a bridge over deep water if you trust in my name” inspired Paul Simon to write “Bridge over Troubled Water” in 1970. The lyric “*God gave Noah the rainbow sign, no more water, the fire next time*” also served as the title for James Baldwin’s 1963 book *The Fire Next Time*.

“Summertime” by George Gershwin and DuBose Heyward, arranged by William Stickles – Gershwin’s timeless masterpiece, *Summertime* from *Porgy and Bess*, was originally written for soprano soloist and orchestra. It’s arranged here by William Stickles for choir and piano accompaniment. Stickles was a composer, arranger, and teacher who spent seven years abroad, studying in Florence, Italy and working as a solo repititeur in

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Munich, Germany before returning to the U.S. to teach in Boston and New York. He wrote many choral, organ, and piano arrangements of standard compositions, as well as original works.

“Deep River” arranged by Noble Cain – The African American spirituals proclaimed the goodness of God and His ultimate triumph over evil. The slaves would taste freedom, they believed, across the Jordan River of death – and some sweet day in the here and now. Looking forward to that day of freedom, the slaves sang “Deep river – my home is over Jordan. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Don’t you want to go to that Gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace. Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.” The arranger of this version, Noble Cain, was the choral director at Northwestern University, as well as the musical director at NBC Radio, and a well known composer of *a cappella* music.

“My Long White Robe” arranged by Albert J. McNeil – Before teaching at UC Davis, Dr. McNeil taught music in Los Angeles elementary and secondary schools for 25 years. He also became widely known as a church choir director and, in 1964, launched the Jubilee Singers. By incorporating the name “Jubilee” in his group’s name, McNeil sought to continue the tradition of the Fisk Jubilee Singers of the 1870s, acclaimed for their simple, four-part arrangements of spirituals. The soloists on tonight’s concert, soprano Nell Walker and tenor Michael Wright, are members of the Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers.

“Hallelujah” arranged by Robert DeCormier – Robert DeCormier was the music director of the New York Choral Society for 17 years, and has arranged extensively, from African American spirituals to international folk songs. Mr. DeCormier’s conducting engagements have taken him from Broadway to opera to the Berkshire Choral Institute. He has also toured nationally and internationally with his own professional group, the Robert DeCormier Singers. He spent several years as conductor and arranger for Harry Belafonte and, for 27 years, he was music director for the popular folk trio, Peter, Paul and Mary. He has written several works ranging from choral works to ballet to Broadway scores. His ballet score, *Rainbow ‘Round My Shoulder*, is in the active repertoire of the Alvin Alley Dance Theater.

“Praise the Lord” by Mary Lou Williams (1910 – 1981) – Ms. Williams was an American jazz pianist, composer, and arranger. She wrote hundreds of compositions and arrangements, and recorded more than one hundred records (in 78, 45, and LP

versions). She taught herself to play the piano at an early age and, at age 14, she was taken on the Orpheum Circuit. By 15, she was jamming in Harlem nightclubs. In 1927, Williams began playing, arranging, and composing for her husband’s band. In the 1930s, she worked as an arranger for Earl Hines, Benny Goodman, and Tommy Dorsey, and she later traveled with Duke Ellington’s band.

Williams started a radio show on WNEW and began mentoring and collaborating with many younger bebop musicians. In 1945, the New York Philharmonic performed her composition *Zodiac Suite*. In 1957, she performed at the Newport Jazz Festival. She also formed her own record label and publishing companies, founded the Pittsburgh Jazz Festival, and made television appearances.

In the 1960s, her composing focused on sacred music – hymns and masses. *Music for Peace* was choreographed and performed by the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater. She also wrote and performed religious jazz music, including *Black Christ of the Andes* and *Praise the Lord*. She was nominated for a Grammy in 1971.

From 1977 to 1981, Williams was an artist-in-residence at Duke University. In 1978, she performed at the White House and also participated in Benny Goodman’s 40th anniversary concert at Carnegie Hall. Her final album, recorded live at the Montreux Jazz Festival, included a medley of spirituals, ragtime, blues and swing.

The Mary Lou Williams Center for Black Culture was established at Duke University in 1983; and the annual Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. began in 1996.

“Stairway to the Stars” was composed by Matty Malneck and Frank Signorelli, with lyrics by Mitchell Parish. It was recorded by Glenn Miller and His Orchestra in 1939, with vocals by Ray Eberle, and by Bud Powell in 1956, Sarah Vaughan in 1957, Ella Fitzgerald in 1960, Johnny Mathis in 1961, Milt Jackson and Wes Montgomery in 1962, Stan Kenton in 1962, Bill Evans in 1962, Dexter Gordon in 1963, Mel Tormé in 1994, and Johnny Hartman in 2010.

Matty Malneck was a jazz violinist and violist, as well as a songwriter. Frank Signorelli was a jazz pianist who played with Bix Beiderbecke and Paul Whiteman. Mitchell Parish was born Michael Pashelinsky in Lithuania. By the late 1920s, he was a well regarded Tin Pan Alley lyricist in New York City. His best known works include the lyrics to “Star Dust,” “Deep Purple,” “Stars Fell on Alabama,” “Sophisticated Lady,” “Volare” (English lyrics), “Moonlight Serenade,” and “Louisiana Fairy Tale,” which was the first theme song used in the PBS Production of *This Old House*.

GUEST CHOIR CONDUCTOR: ALBERT J. McNEIL

Albert McNeil is a native Californian—born in Los Angeles. He earned Bachelors and Masters degrees at UCLA, and a Masters of Science in Music Education from USC, where he did his doctoral studies. He studied with Dr. J. Finley Williamson of the Westminster Choir College of Princeton, and continued graduate study at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland. His mentors included Raymond Moreman, Roger Wagner, Howard Swan, and Jester Hairston.

He is presently Professor Emeritus of Music at the University of California at Davis, where he was Director of Choral Activities for 21 years and headed the Music Education program. He also taught Ethnomusicology at USC for 12 years. Prior to his University teaching, McNeil taught in the Los Angeles Unified School District for 17 years at the elementary, junior high, and high school levels. In 2007, McNeil was called out of retirement to be acting director of Choral Activities at the University of California, Davis. He is currently director of Music at the Founder’s Church of Religious Science in Los Angeles.

The Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers ensemble is his creation, and he has dedicated himself to upholding a choral tradition of excellence with the presentation of the concert spiritual and the ever-increasing contributions of African American composers of concert music, opera, and theatre music. Under his direction the group, now in its 41st year, has performed in 44 states and in 77 countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and South America.

Dr. McNeil has also been an author and editor on a series of music education textbooks for Silver-Burdett-Ginn Publishing Company. He co-authored an educational packet for Bowman Publishing Company as well. His arrangements can be found in the Gentry and Lawson-Gould catalogues.

He is in demand as an adjudicator and clinician and is often invited to conduct “honor choirs” throughout the United States and abroad. In 1993 he presented the sessions on African-American Spirituals and Art Songs at the World Symposium on Choral Music in Vancouver, British Columbia. In 1995, he conducted the World Youth Choir in its North American tour, and he was also appointed vocal director/conductor of the 40th Annual Christmas Candlelight Procession at Disneyland.

In 1996, his Jubilee Singers appeared at the International Choral Festival in Taipei, Taiwan. He was guest conductor on the Mormon Tabernacle Choir’s “An American Heritage of Spirituals,” a CD released in 1997. In 1998, the Jubilee Singers performed the concert version of *Porgy and Bess* with the Honolulu Symphony.

In 1999, McNeil made his debut in Carnegie Hall with the Jubilee Singers. In 2000, McNeil was guest

conductor at the Choral Conductor’s Guild Convention. In 2001, McNeil’s second performance in Carnegie Hall featured the music of Jester Hairston and celebrated the late composer’s 100th birthday with a choir of 219 singers from throughout California. At America Cantat IV, he conducted a 175 voice choir, including students from Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and the Dominican Republic.

McNeil led his Jubilee Singers at the L. A. Holiday Celebration at the Music Center in 2005, 2006, 2009, and 2010. Also in 2010, the Jubilee Singers performed in Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center, with McNeil as guest director of the Festival of American Choral Music: Traditional and Contemporary.

Notable among his awards are: UCLA Alumnus of the Year for Professional Excellence, and the 1999 Michael Korn Award for distinguished conducting (Chorus America—Association of Professional Ensembles). The California State University Board of Trustees conferred the honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree upon McNeil in 2003.

The ACDA Western Division honored both the Jubilee Singers and Dr. McNeil in “command performances” at their 2004 Convention, where he received a Lifetime Achievement Award. He also received a lifetime achievement award in 2007 from the National Association of Church Musicians. And in 2010, McNeil was honored by the Westminster Choir College of Rider University in the chapel of Princeton University when he was given an honorary Doctor of Music degree.

Professor McNeil is on the boards of the Los Angeles Master Chorale and the Neighborhood Music School. He is a life member of the American Choral Directors Association and the National Association of Negro Musicians. He was a Member of the Board of Directors of Chorus America, from 1988 to 1997.



Elementary Honor Choir

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Akcora, Sila | Fletcher, Cheyenne | Laaly, Maya | Rao, Diya |
| Allan, Juliette | Foster, Dora | LaPlante, Jacqueline | Recendez, Janice |
| Allegrette, Rose | Foutch, James | LaPlante, Juliette | Ricciardulli, Natalie |
| Alvardo, Joseph | Fouts, Cleo | Lares, Ernesto | Rodriguez, Melissa |
| Arita, Jared | Francis, Kaya | Lee, Kole | Rosenthal, Riley |
| Ayala, Adiani | Fregoso, Cynthia | Levis-Fitzgerald, John | Salmaggi, Nicholas |
| Ballard, Kyla | Gaeta, Julie | Levy, Sophia | Saunders, Lilly |
| Barbosa, Nayeli | Garcia, Emilie | Lindley, Isabel | Sayson, Nadiya |
| Beauregard, Pascale | Gawne, Rhiannon | Lynch, Keira | Schmelzer, Claire |
| Bird-Fremont, Evan | Glasser, Jolie | Lynch, Alfaro | Scott, Charlotte |
| Bissember, Reine | Goddard, Lily | Mah, Tara | Scott, Samantha |
| Brock, Eve | Goldenberg, Erin | Mathews, Bailey | Segal, Evelyn |
| Burns, Natasha | Gomez, Emily | McCann, Chelsea | Shaaban, Adam |
| Bustamante-Guzman, Sofia | Goosby, Nadia | McNairy, Chantal | Sheridan-McDonald, Leyla |
| Cabana, Nerea | Goormley, Caitlyn | Miele-Okada, Isabella | Sofowora, Jasmine |
| Campanotto, Alia | Gutierrez, Alan | Miller, Graham | Stavis, Chloe |
| Candaele, Arielle | Guzzana, Lucia | Molina, Sarah | Stem, Jameson |
| Chopra, Alexander | Hollins, Carla | Money-Walker, Saliyah | Stuhlmuller, Vincent |
| Cloete, Francesca | Homami, Alexander | Muller, Mackenzie | Suarez, Irlanda |
| Collins, Miniya | Horton, Ruby | Myers, Amanda | Suttonwills, Bryce |
| Cornejo, Galilea | Inatsugu, Sadie | Navin, Kaylee | Van Velzen, Danielle |
| Davidson, Eve | Jacott, Eloise | Niven, Lily | Vandenbrook, Ruby |
| Davis, Tess | Jarmakani, Amani | Odoom, Gabby | Wachtel, Mia |
| De la Torre, Joseph | Jimenez y West, Hal'ia | Perez, Alexia | Walker, Caley |
| Denbaugh, Cristina | Kelly, Kendall | Perez, Abigail | Walker, Emily |
| Diaz, Carolina | Kim, Rachel | Phan, Hieu | Weng, Isabella |
| Durkin, Caitlin | Komlos, Emery | Prodonovich, Paige | Williams, Spencer |
| Falk, Sophia | Koppen, Harlow | Putnam, Emily | Williams, Saiya |
| Faries, Anna | Koseff, Samara | Rahgashay, Kiana | Wyatt, Shae |
| Feldman, Jordyn | Laaly, Kyla | | |

Middle School Choirs

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Akcora, Dilay | Cohenzadeh, Eliana | French, Lauryn | Johnston, Owen |
| Andrews, Bryan | Cole, Jeffery | Friedman, Ian | Joseph, Phoebe |
| Anneet, Claire | Corleto, Mary Jo | Furukawa, Maya | Kanan, Malia |
| Armitage, Annabel | Cross, Camille | Garcia, Cindy | KC, Sonam |
| Artest, Jeron | Cunningham, Belle | George, Gracey | Khosla, Lara |
| Artiss Colquhun, Bethany | D'Andrea, Zoe | Gerber, Kaia | Klein, Rachel |
| Baker, Blaise | Daikeler, Ava | Glasser, Sophia | Korneychuk, Madeline |
| Basseri, Michael | Damian, Lana | Goddard, Tess | Kotler, Ava |
| Bay, Natalie | Davis, Grace | Golay, Sophie | Kriegel, Holiday |
| Bieber, Charlotte | Dilla, Janine | Golden, Emma | Lamell, Rachel |
| Bisson, Madelyn | Dorsey, Emily | Goldsmith, Melanie | Lance, Ali |
| Bloch, Stella | Dovel, Alexander | Gonzalez, Nina | Landis, Raven |
| Bogie, Catherine | Dubrovner, Jessica | Greenberg, Spenser | Lanning, Talia |
| Bullock-Floyd, Makeda | Durkin, Judy | Grimaldo, Jessie | Larson, Olivia |
| Burke, Jonathan | Eiges, Sarah | Hamilton, Lily | Lax, Josiah |
| Campanotto, Angelina | Engels, Riley | Heckerman, Jana | Leon Reyes, Ari |
| Camporaso, Zoe | Farrer, Gabrielle | Hernandez, Eileen | Lerner-Sinsheimer, Aliya |
| Celikel, Kayla | Filali, Ian | Higa, Rose keiko | Levis-Fitzgerald, Robert |
| Cheng-McIntire, Willow | Fiordaliso-Riahi, Joseph | Ipina, Jade | Lewin, Natashaia |
| Chun, Clara | Fletcher, Grace | Johnson, Parker | |

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Middle School Choirs, continued from page 8

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Lim, Larissa | Mohanty, Adya |
| Lo Greco, Christopher | Morales, Gabriela |
| Long, Tallulah | Mugalian, Duncan |
| Lopez, Alan | Nava, Lucas |
| Lyons, Iseult | Nicholas, Paloma |
| Mark, Adele | Niven, Isabella |
| Martin, Brenden | Noorani, Shayan |
| Martin, Tiffany | Odening, Chase |
| Martin-Bourne, Nathan | Ollila, Morrea |
| Martinez, Leilani | Ollivier, Esther |
| Masterson, Lyla | Orian, Jennifer |
| Mazur, Alex | Parkin, Miranda |
| Mazur, Mike | Patel, Priya |
| Metz, Zane | Perez, Miguel |
| Milosevic, Mina | Pettit, Aidan |
| Modica, Fleurette | Pietrzyk, Kate |

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Abramowitz, Phoebe | Dufour, Zackary |
| Alba, Christopher | Edwards, Phoebe |
| Altobello, Emma | Elian, Abbie |
| Alvarez-Zakson, Danilo | Escarce, Julio |
| Ambriz, Lauren | Ettenger, Eden |
| Anthony, Isobel | Evangelista, Jeanne Mari |
| Baldonado, Pauline | Evers, Caitlyn |
| Balfus, Jane | Fitzgerald, Marissa |
| Barbato, Anastasia | Fuentes, Carrillo |
| Bates, Jade | Fuller, Antonia |
| Bedi, Tatiana | Fuller, Jessica |
| Bolander, Ella | Ganguly, Ishani |
| Bosetti, Emily | Gardner, Emma |
| Brewer, Ciara | Gilboa, Harrison |
| Brine, Cecilia | Glasser, Casey |
| Byrne, Riley | Goldberg, Alyssa |
| Carvajal, Jazmin | Goosby, Natasha |
| Cass, Bailey | Gordon, Brooklyn |
| Chwe, Hana | Graham, Lillian |
| Claus, Julia | Gruendemann, Hannah |
| Condon, Carly | Gsell, Jennifer |
| Conkrite, Elijah | Gutierrez, Tomas |
| Crawford, Anya | Gutierrez, Christian |
| Crellin, Kate | Habib, Jahangir |
| Cueva, Alia | Hadfield, Talon |
| D'Andrea, Quinn | Hoffman, Hailey |
| Daggy, Maximilian | Hubbard, Natalie |
| Davidson, Walker | Johnson, Dempsy |
| De Beus, Camille | Johnson, Sarah |
| Devita, Maxwell | Kanjo, Robert |
| Dickinson, Sarah | Kerwin, Kieran |
| Droeger, Abigail | Kile, Cubbie |
| Drori, Romie | |

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Pringle, McKenna | Todd, Tristin |
| Quintero-Retis, Alba | Turner, Sophia |
| Ramos, Venus | Wallach, Ashley |
| Rivera, Zoie | Ward, Kobe |
| Rose, Noah | Ware, Emma |
| Rowe, Alexander | Wasson, Ava |
| Rubinstein, Ryan | Watanabe, Iris |
| Ruiz, Eli | Watson, Reagan |
| Saltzman, Zelda | Weber, Winona |
| Sandhu, Sumta | Welch, Isaac |
| Segura, Javier | Wessel, Mika |
| Selak, Sunny | Williams, Coco |
| Sobel, Sadye | Winterer, Eleanor |
| Stahl, Dagny | Wooden, Zion |
| Staib, Hunter | Young, Rachel |
| Steedman, Joe | Zeichner, Jobim |
| Tarasco, Malaya | Zuczek, Andre |
| Tenzer, Lily | |

High School Choirs

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Kinsinger, Katherine | Rosenberg, Nicole |
| Kleiman, Maya | Ross, Benjamin |
| Kuperberg, Fran | Rothenbucher, Natasha |
| Labrie, Teagan | Ruff, Julia |
| Laflam, Kaira | Sachs, Kela |
| Lamb, Anna | Samson, Madeline |
| Landay, Gabriella | Sandhu, Summer |
| Lassalle, Arden | Sandoval, Sadie |
| Lemkin, Sophie | Saykali, Shirley |
| Little, Brandon | Schaefer, Sofia |
| Lockwood, Lexi | Schwarz, Sophie |
| Maguire, Misha | Sherouse, Isabelle |
| Martinez, Nagel | Shoemaker, Caitlin |
| Martins, Sintra | Smith, Caitlin |
| Michael, Zane | Smoller, Ellery |
| Misra, Anamika | Sze, Michael |
| Molina Garcia, Meillyn | Tejada, Erica |
| Mourali, Alia | Thatcher, Isabella |
| Nesbeth, Haroldo | Thatcher, Martha |
| Ngo, Patrick | Thomason, Sophie |
| Nicol, Ariana | Tiernan, Caragh |
| O'Malley, Cashel | Tunnicliffe, Tiernan |
| Oh, Ji Suk | Valdman, Maggie |
| Ornelas, Wendy | Vieha, Aaron |
| Perez, Daniel | Vieha, Cameron |
| Plukas, Kaitlyn | Walecki, Nancy |
| Prada, Tomas | Ware, Matthew |
| Quine, Annie | Wholey, Eva |
| Reynolds, Amelia | Wolfe, Sylvain |
| Reynolds, Eleanor | Won, Mitchell |
| Reynolds, Sara | Youngs, Samuel |
| Romero, Sofia | Zakharin, Abby |

PROGRAM

Welcome

Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

Combined Bands

The Star-Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key and John Stafford Smith
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Bruce Tellier and Tony Fox
 Stairway to the Stars Matty Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier

Introductions

Sandra Lyon, Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Band

Tribute to Ray Anthony: The Bunny Hop and the Hokey Pokey Ray Anthony
Steven Ravaglioli, Conductor arr. Bruce Tellier
Improvised solos by Tuck Gesner, Webster Elementary School, on trumpet,
Josephine Fitzsimmons, Edison Language Academy, on flute, and Joshua Speer, Webster Elementary School, on trumpet

Introduction of Guest Conductor

by Dr. Terry Deloria, Assistant Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Band

Ancient Voices Michael Sweeney
Thomas Lee, Conductor

Stairway Award Recipient – The Beasley Family

Introduced by Ralph Mechur, Vice President, SMMUSD Board of Education

Middle School Band

Courtly Airs and Dances, Mvts. I, IV, VI. Ron Nelson
Thomas Lee, Conductor
 Amen! Frank Ticheli
Thomas Lee, Conductor
 The Trombone King Karl L. King
Thomas Lee, Conductor arr. John Paynter

High School Jazz Bands

Spain Chick Corea
Bill Bixler, Conductor arr. Paul Jennings
John Beasley, guest soloist

High School Bands

March Militaire Française Camille Saint-Saëns
Thomas Lee, Conductor arr. Matthew Lester Lake
 Blessed Are They Johannes Brahms
Kevin McKeown, Conductor arr. Barbara Buehlman

Guest Conductor’s Remarks – Thomas Lee

Introduced by Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

High School Bands

Southern Harmony, Mvts. I, II, III Don Grantham
Thomas Lee, Conductor

Combined Bands

Stairway to the Stars Matty Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier

PROGRAM NOTES

A Tribute to Ray Anthony: The Bunny Hop and The Hokey Pokey – The Bunny Hop dance moves originated at Balboa High School in San Francisco in 1952. In 1953, Ray Anthony, a band leader who saw the dance being done by the students of the school, wrote the “Bunny Hop” song that became a hit record. The dance, along with the song, soon became a rage in the party circuits of America. What it so popular was the fact that the dance instructions were included in the song’s lyrics. The Bunny Hop has been rerecorded a number of times, and a modified version has also been developed for salsa dancing. In 1953, Ray Anthony’s big band recording of “The Hokey Pokey” song turned it into a nationwide sensation. The distinctive vocal was by singer Jo Ann Greer, who simultaneously sang with the Les Brown band and dubbed the singing voices for such film stars as Rita Hayworth, Kim Novak, June Allyson and Esther Williams. Steven Ravaglioli thanks Ray Anthony for personally giving permission to the SMMUSD to allow the arrangement and performance of these selections at the Stairway of the Stars. This version was arranged by Bruce Tellier specifically for the 2014 All-District Honor Band.

Ancient Voices by Michael Sweeney – This is a mystical and exciting piece! Rarely does any single publication have such an effect on band literature as this unique and striking composition from 1994. Individually, the parts are relatively simple, yet the combined effect is sophisticated and impressive. The composer uses a wealth of contemporary devices (including tone clusters, recorders, singing, and pencil tapping) to create an aura of pre-historic times.

Courtly Dances and Airs by Ron Nelson – This is a suite of Renaissance dances which were characteristic to five different European countries. It opens with a fanfare-like Intrada followed by Basse Dance (France), Pavane (England), Saltarello (Italy), Sarabande (Spain) and Allemande (Germany). Mr. Nelson received his bachelor’s, master’s, and doctor of musical arts degrees from the Eastman School of Music, and he taught at Brown University from 1956 to 1993. He was awarded the Medal of Honor of the John Philip Sousa Foundation in Washington, DC in 1994.

Amen! by Frank Ticheli – Ticheli, a professor of composition at USC since 1991, has been honored by the American Band Directors Association for “exceptional contributions to the school band movement in America.” Many of Ticheli’s works for concert band have become standards in the repertoire. Upbeat and somewhat jazzy, this lighthearted work displays the creativity

and versatility band directors have grown to expect from this popular composer.

The Trombone King by Karl L. King was published in 1945. The trombone part rarely calms down during this march – nor any King march, for that matter. As a former euphonium player, King made sure that the low brass players shared the best melodies. King’s distinguished career as a bandmaster, prolific composer and musician made him a legend in his own lifetime. Everyone has heard his “Barnum and Bailey’s Favorite” which, along with the other 200 marches he composed, assured him the world-wide status of March King along with John Philip Sousa and Henry Fillmore.

Spain by Chick Corea is an instrumental jazz fusion composition, written in 1971. Corea opens the Light as a Feather version of “Spain” with the adagio from Joaquin Rodrigo’s *Concierto de Aranjuez*. After the intro, the song switches to a fast, steady samba-like rhythm, in which the main theme and an improvisation part are repeated. The Light as a Feather version of “Spain” received two Grammy nominations, for Best Instrumental Arrangement and for Best Instrumental Jazz Performance by a Group. In 2001, Corea was awarded the Best Instrumental Arrangement Grammy for “Spain for Sextet and Orchestra.” Paul Jennings’ masterful arrangement dates from 1982.

March Militaire Française by Camille Saint-Saëns – Saint-Saëns was a child prodigy who composed in nearly all genres, enjoying his greatest success in the 1870s and 1880s with works such as *Danse Macabre*, the opera *Samson et Delilah*, and the delightful *Carnival of the Animals*. After the death of his two young sons, he began to travel outside of France, especially to North Africa. “March Militaire Française” is the finale movement of a four-movement symphonic poem, Suite *Algérienne*, that was inspired by Saint-Saëns’ trips to Algeria, then a French colony. The march has become famous, both as an orchestral favorite and as a French concert march for wind ensemble and concert band.

Blessed Are They by Johannes Brahms is from *A German Requiem*, which was first performed in 1868. Brahms’s mother died in 1865, a loss that caused him much grief and may well have inspired this work. Although the Requiem Mass in the Roman Catholic liturgy begins with prayers for the dead (“Grant them eternal rest, O Lord”), *A German Requiem* focuses on the

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Band Program Notes, continued from page 11

living, beginning with the text “Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted,” from the Beatitudes. The sublime work, originally composed for chorus and orchestra, has all the depth and beauty associated with the music of Brahms. This skillfully crafted arrangement by Barbara Buehlman, a former public school band director, has become a staple in the literature for concert bands.

Southern Harmony by Donald Grantham – In 1835, William “Singin’ Billy” Walker’s songbook *Southern Harmony* was first published. This remarkable collection contains tunes, hymns,

psalms, odes, and anthems. The book was immensely popular, selling an amazing 600,000 copies before the Civil War. The music of *Southern Harmony* has a somewhat exotic sound to modern audiences. The tunes often use modal or pentatonic rather than major or minor scales. The harmony is even more out of the ordinary. These harmonizations were dismissed as crude and primitive when they first appeared. Now they are regarded as inventive, unique, and powerfully representative of the American character. In his use of several tunes from *Southern Harmony*, the composer attempted to preserve the flavor of the original vocal works in a setting that fully realizes the potential of the wind ensemble and the individual character of each song.

GUEST BAND CONDUCTOR: THOMAS LEE

EMERITUS Professor, Director of Bands, and Conductor of the UCLA Wind Ensemble. Lee holds the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati (1971), as well as two degrees from Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, where he was a student of Don Marcouiller.

Prior to his appointment at UCLA, he was the Founder/Conductor of the University of Texas Wind Ensemble in Austin and was director of the graduate program in Band Conducting. Before his appointment at Texas, Dr. Lee was founder/conductor of the Ohio University Wind Ensemble where he received a research grant to develop an innovative approach to teaching conducting through non-verbal communication. (1973)



Since his arrival at UCLA in 1985, the UCLA Wind Ensemble has received international acclaim as well as significant prominence for performances at national and regional conferences as well as recordings of important composers. Dr. Lee is especially known for musical performances as well as for creative programming, balancing both traditional and contemporary literature. In addition, he has a special commitment to the commissioning of new music by American composers.

Professor Lee created several new programs within the Wind Ensemble performance venue. Recently, a new collaboration between the Society of Los Angeles Film

Composers and the Wind Ensemble resulted in an internship program for UCLA students to work directly with the most acclaimed film composers.

Currently, there are a large number of conducting students of Professor Lee that hold university conducting positions throughout the USA. He is particularly proud of these conductors and their achievement.

Dr. Lee has been invited to guest conduct with All-State Bands and music festivals in all parts of the USA, Canada, Mexico, Western Europe, and Asia. In addition, Professor Lee has given innumerable workshops on all aspects of conducting and interpretation of music with special emphasis in the area of non-verbal communication skills.

The UCLA Wind Ensemble participated in the International New Music Forum in Mexico City presenting several premieres during two concerts. The UCLA Wind Ensemble was the only American university music group so honored. In 1992, Lee conducted the Wind Ensemble’s performance of student works on the CBS Evening News (New Year’s Eve) which was nominated for three Emmy Awards.

Since Professor Lee’s retirement from UCLA, he has maintained a full schedule of Guest Conducting and leading Conducting Workshops.

Elementary Honor Band

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Adler, Benjamin | Ginter, Alana | Lichterman, Jack | Sim, Jonah |
| Bahadur, Nikita | Grant, Janov | Lovera, Naomi | Smith, Henry |
| Bardach, Anya | Grossman, Shai | Lovett, Dixie | Sotelo, Gabriel |
| Benun, Bryce | Grube, Niklas | Lughod, Zayna | Spanos, Aris |
| Blodgett, Will | Gyepes, Adriana | MacDonald, Cameron | Speer, Joshua |
| Bonewitz, Trur | Halperin, Gabriel | Mankoff, Samuel | Tampanaru, Emma |
| Brown, Alexander | Harris, Bryant | Matone, Augustin | Tampanaru, Nicole |
| Buenrostro-Juarez, Luis | Haygood, Harry | Matsas, Elias | Tanabe, Kae |
| Christmas, Casey | Hirshorn, Chase | Moeller, Audrey | Terry, Brendan |
| Chu, Michael | Hollander, Harper | Molina-Ramirez, Joanna | Thonson, William |
| Davis, Jack | Hughes, Aiden | Moss, Eleanor | Threlkeld, Joshua |
| Davis, Clair | Irie Iida, Yamato | Mustalampi, Ilka | Tohyama, Kent |
| Diaz, Angel | Johnston, Daisy | Nahass, Gilbert | Wagenvoord, Isabelle |
| Dileo, Katy | Kachadoorian, Silvia | Pappanduros, Mark | Wali, Sidd |
| Dimundo, Ian | Kaufman, Chloe | Perez, Henry | Ware, Kierra |
| Dreibholz, Ella | Kelley, Ethan | Perini, Anthony | Whitebloom, Oisin |
| Dwyer, Samuel | Kohn, Samuel | Prasad, Rayna | Wickline, Tom |
| Ellis, Nina | Koller, Lars | Price, Quentin | Wisen, Karina |
| Fitzsimmons, Josephine | Krieger, Ezra | Raymond, Jeremiah | Witting, Alana |
| Fleming, Torin | Ladreyt, Christopher | Romero, Leo | Wolf, Nicholas |
| Fortis-Lawless, Taliesa | Ladreyt, Nicholas | Rotgin, Julia | Wolf, Tsering |
| Frcek, Andre | Leland, Aaron | Ruplenas, Karina | Woods, John |
| Gamble, Mingus | Levin, Bradley | Safchuck, Skyler | Yassin, Jackson |
| Gerlach, Veronica | Levy, Briana | Santiago, Juan Jose | Zakharin, Aron |
| Gesner, Tuck | Lewis-Koury, Kayla | Sariri, Kasra | Zeevi, Maya |
| Gilman, Leo | Lichterman, Quinn | Schlang, Logan | Zinner, James |

Middle School Bands

| | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Amiri, Ila | Chamas, Adam | Earhart, Mason | Huang, Annie |
| Apter, Alec | Chertock, Sophia | Emrich, Robert | Hughes, Jake |
| Apter, James | Chesler, Genevieve | Felstiner, George | Hwang, Chloe |
| Bahadur, Naveen | Chesler, Samuel | Finkelstein, Michael | Iglesias, Brandon |
| Ballard, Adria | Cheung, Kirun | Flack-Martinez, Ines | Isom, Autry |
| Bartlett, Kelly | Choe, Yoonjung | Ford, Jessica | Janov, Ryan |
| Beck, Charles | Cockrell, Samuel | Ginter, Cole | Jarow, Morgan |
| Bell, Thomas | Cohen, Daniel | Gordon, Lorenzo | Jacobson, Layne |
| Benun, Blake | Cohen-Suelter, Jack | Goren, Maya | Johnson, Veronica |
| Bernstein, Drew | Comay, Nathaniel | Gorgas, Noa | Katz, Adam |
| Blodgett, John | Cosentino, Thomas | Gotler, David | Kean, Joseph |
| Bolander, Esme | Cramer, Luke | Goudzwaard, Amelia | Kim, Caleb |
| Bond, Aaron | Cruz, Oscar | Gravelle, Miles | Kirschbaum, Avery |
| Bonham, Robert | Dastur, Maia | Guevara Flood, Sean | Kleiman, Hannah |
| Bowser, Ayinde | Davanzo, Amanda | Gunn, Ronan | Krop, Lila |
| Brady, Sierra | Detweiler, Theo | Hallinan, Owen | Kruis-Grant, Calla |
| Brenner, Dylan | Di mundo, Natalie | Hatch, Byron | Kunerth, Ashlyn |
| Brooks, Xander | Downing, Caleb | Heine, Louis | Lee, Lucas |
| Bunting, Ryan | Downing, Simeon | Helm, Theodore | Levin, Jared |
| Burkin, Asher | Doyle, Owen | Hu, Andrew | Levison-Williams, Ellison |

Continued on page 14

Middle School Bands, continued from page 13

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Lizardi, Sofia | Norrell, Ava | Schlessinger, Alan |
| Logan, Ryan | Pablo Saavedra, Andy | Segal, Joshua |
| Maischoss, Lauren | Platt, Justin | Shamsian, Shaya |
| Martinez, Andrew | Purtell, Janet | Sheng, Joshua |
| Masterson, Connor | Putterman, Aaron | Sherman, Lucy |
| Medina, Andrea | Raman, Shrayes | Shoff, William |
| Melaku, Michael | Redclay, Rivers | Smith, Riley |
| Melamed, Arielle | Richards, Miles | Solano, Pablo |
| Mercier, Theo | Richards, Timothy | Solberg, Nicholas |
| Metzler, Sage | Rietta, Grace | Sonderegger, Kate |
| Mohanty, Adya | Robertson, August | Sposato, Julian |
| Monroy-Amezquita, Juan | Rogers Fett, Jacob | Sposato, Milo |
| Moore, Sorin | Rothblatt, Wyndham | Stern, Benjamin |
| Morris, Dustin | Sarkissian, Tina | Taha, Jibriel |
| Murphy, Declan | Sayson, Dariush | Tarlow, Hudson |
| Nahass, Samuel | Schiffman-Eller, Eloise | Terry, Benjamin |
| Noori, Cameron | Schlang, Ethan | Thonson, Olivia |

High School Bands

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Anthony, Nicholas | Ferrarin, Gianna | Kent, Michael | Pattarawuttiwong, Sherryn |
| Apter, Julian | Finkelstein, Bradley | Kiekhofer, Rachel | Peterson, Tristan |
| Armstrong, Christopher | Fleck, Elliot | Kirschbaum, Hayden | Pettijohn, Dyer |
| Aron, Jack | Flood, Carmen | Krop, Jonah | Pietro, John Luke |
| Barton, Cooper | French, Alyssa | Kummer, Adam | Pietrzyk, Caroline |
| Batalla, Elias | Gallagher, Timothy | Le, Matthew | Pomerantz, Ava |
| Baum, Mira | Garcia, Daisy | Levenson, Max | Prada, Tomas |
| Bernstein, Mollie | Gaughan, Peyton | Levine, Jacob | Prakasim, Khoi |
| Billington, Francesca | Gelfand, Ben | Maccoby, Josh | Preis, Kuba |
| Bixler, Robben | Gesner, Finn | Marshall, Josephine | Putterman, Carl |
| Blake, Dashed | Gesner, Rory | Marshall, Dane | Putterman, Harald |
| Bolander, Ara | Gold, Jake | McBreen, Owen | Qi, Jerry |
| Brewster, Keaton | Gordon, Elizabeth | McBride, Liam | Roberts, Ryan |
| Brown, Andrew | Gordon, Linus | McCreight, Kyle | Rosenberg, Erik |
| Buckley, Henry | Gordon, Linda | Melick, Gregory | Ross, Rene |
| Canales, Benjamin | Gorgas, Maya | Miller, Madison | Rusk-Kosa, Kathryn |
| Charchut, Nicholas | Gotler, Zachary | Muldaur, Skyler | Schwartz, Kyle |
| Chenevert, Daniel | Gujral, Nipunjeet | Musca, Tomas | Semler, Micah |
| Clark, Sam | Gutierrez, Francisco | Navarro, Jeffrey | Stocker, Eric |
| Cohen-Suelter, Samuel | Guyette, Sam | Nikora, Jesse | Tomita, William |
| Cull, Carruth | Haas, Jeff | Nispel, Bruno | Villero, Lauren |
| Davalos Stanton, Glennon | Halperin, Lucas | Odian, Raven | Wickline, Jane |
| Davis Del Piccolo, Clelia | Hannley, Vincent | Ohanian, Sarah | Wiland, Winona |
| Debissie, Dorothy | Horwitz-Hirsch, Isaac | Olmon, Harper | Williams, Jessa |
| Devitt, Dana | Horwitz-Hirsch, Sophia | Orellana, Andrés | Wisn, Abby |
| Diaz, Abel | Irvin, Jacob | Orian, Dillon | Won, Mitchell |
| Earhart, Gannon | Ishizuka, Tomoki | Oyakawa, Jason | Yang, Christopher |
| Felstiner, Henry | Israilevich, Rachel | Pak, Chris | Yazdani, Shayda |

PROGRAM

Welcome

Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

Combined Orchestras

The Star-Spangled Banner Francis Scott Key and John Stafford Smith
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Bruce Tellier and Tony Fox
 Stairway to the Stars Matty Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier

Introductions

Sandra Lyon, Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Orchestra

Hokie Dokie Dumpling Edmund J. Siennicki
Bonnie Lockrem, Conductor

Introduction of Guest Conductor

by Dr. Terry Deloria, Assistant Superintendent

All-District Elementary Honor Orchestra

Nightrider Richard Meyer
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor

Stairway Award – The Beasley Family

Presented by Ralph Mechur, Vice President, SMMUSD Board of Education

Middle School Orchestras

Terra Nova Richard Meyer
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor
 Scarborough Fair arr. Brian Balmages
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor
 Ships of Ireland. Soon Hee Newbold
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor

High School Orchestras

Festive Overture in A Major, Op. 96 Dmitri Shostakovich
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor
 Adagietto from Symphony No.5 Gustav Mahler
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor

Guest Conductor’s Remarks – Bruce Kiesling

Introduced by Tom Whaley, Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator

High School Orchestras

Overture to the opera William Tell Gioachino Rossini
Bruce Kiesling, Conductor

Combined Orchestras

Stairway to the Stars Matty Malneck and Frank Signorelli
Tom Whaley, Conductor arr. Tony Fox and Bruce Tellier

PROGRAM NOTES

Hokie Dokie Dumpling by Edmund J. Siennicki – This piece, written in A-B-A-C-A rondo form, begins in a playful, light-hearted manner, then takes on a loud and commanding style. It includes double stops and staccato bowing. The melody is played by all sections of the string orchestra, with changes in dynamics and a boisterous ending.

Nightrider by Richard Meyer – This piece, with its mysterious tonality and driving rhythms, is reminiscent of Schumann's character pieces for young musicians. Written in a minor mode and in $\frac{3}{4}$ meter, the piece also uses col legno bowing. Mr. Meyer is a nationally recognized, best-selling composer with over 130 compositions and arrangements in print.

Terra Nova by Richard Meyer – Featuring a contemporary “hip” sound, modal melodies, and changing meter signatures, this piece emphasizes dynamic contrast, accents, and syncopation. Mr. Meyer has taught string students in the public schools at the elementary, middle and high school level for over thirty years, and he was music director of the Pasadena Youth Symphony for sixteen years.

Scarborough Fair – English folk song arranged by Brian Balmages – This is a sensitive setting of the traditional ballad. The lyrics of “Scarborough Fair” appear to have something in common with a Scottish ballad which has been traced at least as far back as 1670. The melody is very typical of the middle English period. As the song spread, it was adapted, modified, and rewritten, to the point that dozens of versions existed by the end of the 18th century.

Ships of Ireland by Soon Hee Newbold – Surrounded by the sea, Ireland has historically relied on its ships as a means of transportation, trade, fishing, and exploration. The composer uses various instruments to convey the rocking of the boats as well as the waves in the water. The Celtic melody shines throughout over an occasional drone in the bass voices. A pizzicato section adds color and intensity. Ms. Newbold began playing the piano at age five and the violin at age seven. She currently works as a producer, actress, composer, and musician.

Festive Overture by Dmitri Shostakovich – This overture was written by Shostakovich in 1954 for a concert held at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the October Revolution. The Bolshoi's conductor contacted the

composer at the last minute, and Shostakovich set to work on the overture with great speed, completing it in just three days. The overture begins with a fanfare in the brass, followed by a fast melody in the winds. The strings take up this melody, and the piece reaches a climax with a four-note motif. Suddenly, the mood becomes more lyrical, with a melody played by the horns and cellos. Then composer then uses both themes in counterpoint before the fanfare returns, leading to a rousing coda.

Adagietto from Symphony No. 5 by Gustav Mahler – From Gilbert Kaplan in the New York Times: “The Adagietto. For most music lovers, there is but one: the tender and supremely lyrical fourth movement of Mahler's Fifth Symphony. Scored only for strings and harp, and often performed as an independent work, it is surely the composer's best-known piece.” The symphony was completed in 1902, and the slow fourth movement was written as Mahler's love song to his wife Alma. It has inspired more than 20 choreographers to create ballets, and it has served as the principal theme for several films, including Visconti's *Death in Venice*. Ice dancers Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir performed their free dance to the Adagietto at both the 2010 Winter Olympics and the 2010 World Championships, winning the gold medal at both events.

William Tell Overture by Gioachino Rossini — The last of Rossini's 39 operas, *William Tell* was premiered in 1829. Parts of the overture have been used in both classical music and popular media, most famously as the theme music for *The Lone Ranger*. It paints a musical picture of life in the Swiss Alps, the setting of the opera. The Prelude (Dawn), begins with a solo cello, which is “answered” by four other cellos and the double basses. The dynamic Storm section is played by the full orchestra. It begins with the violins and violas, punctuated by the woodwinds. The storm breaks out in full with the entrance of the brass instruments and bass drum. The volume and number of instruments gradually decreases as the storm subsides. The pastorale section signifying the calm after the storm begins with a Ranz des Vaches or “Call to the Cows,” featuring the English horn, which then alternates phrases with the flute. The Finale, (March of The Swiss Soldiers), is a dynamic gallop heralded by trumpets and played by the full orchestra. It alludes to the Swiss soldiers' victorious battle to liberate their homeland from Austrian repression. Although there are no horses or cavalry charges in the opera, this segment is often used in popular media to denote galloping horses, a race, or a hero riding to the rescue.

GUEST ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR: BRUCE KIESLING

Shizo-musical, Bruce Kiesling is often confused about what kind of music he loves the most. All of his time on the podium suggests he's a “classical” guy, but he's also been seen on the stage of the Hollywood Bowl conducting with Stevie Wonder and Latin superstar Juanes.

His current conducting positions include staff positions with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Pasadena Symphony, and the Tulare County Symphony. Since he became music director of the latter orchestra, ticket sales and sponsorships have increased to record levels, and his concert comments and insider stories have become popular additions to programs. The orchestra's artistic profile has grown as well, including last season's performance of *The Rite of Spring*, additional progress toward a cycle of all of the symphonies of Tchaikovsky and Beethoven, and the start of a Mahler cycle.

The Fall 2013 season began with a guest appearance with the Pacific Symphony and his new appointments with the Pasadena Symphony (as assistant conductor) and the Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra (as music director).



Mr. Kiesling's other passion is music education. He currently serves as the Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (YOLA) conductor for the LA Phil and leads multiple orchestras of different levels, including most of the 630 students at YOLA's three sites. YOLA is Gustavo Dudamel's signature music education program, which brings free-of-charge musical opportunities to underserved youth in Los Angeles.

Mr. Kiesling has conducted at the country's most storied halls, including the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, and Walt Disney Concert hall. He has worked with Dmitry Sitkovetsky, Tai Murray, Alexander Paley, Lindsay Deutsch, Jennifer Check, Anthony Dean Griffey, Gary Hoffman, Darren Criss, Stevie Wonder, Ricky Minor, Grace Potter, Jason Alexander, Lonny Price, Jodi Benson, Doug LeBrecque, Doc Watson, David Holt, and Gospel performers Richard Smallwood and Curt Carr. His orchestras have accompanied Clay Aiken, Natalie Cole, and Michael Bolton among others. He also spent eight years as resident conductor of the wonderful Greensboro Symphony Orchestra in North Carolina before relocating to California.

Mr. Kiesling also serves on the faculty of the Longy School of Music of Bard College: MAT program (Master of Arts in Teaching). Based in Los Angeles, this teacher

certification graduate program integrates advanced studies in musical performance and the latest trends in music education by combining the Longy School of Music's progressive and rigorous musical training with Bard College's renowned academic and socially based teacher training programs. In addition, he conducts the orchestra at the College of the Sequoias.

Then there's his addiction to film music, for which he composes a few original scores each year. Film music also finds its way on to many of his concert programs, including a full performance of the films *Psycho* and *Casablanca*.



There was also his musical theater phase, during which he served as musical director for dozens of productions. These included the original production of Darren Criss (of TV's “Glee”) “A Very Potter Sequel,” which became a top ten hit on iTunes. He was also musical director for the five-time Emmy winner *The News in Revue*, and *They're Playing Our Song* (starring Jason Alexander) at Reprise Theater.

Of his four years with YOLA, Mr. Kiesling writes, “It's sounds like a dream: starting a youth orchestra from scratch with the resources of the Los Angeles Philharmonic behind you, and with a brilliant team of people led by and inspired by the genius of Gustavo Dudamel. But it's been even better than that. Working with YOLA has been a unique opportunity. Very few educators have the chance to take students from their first year on instruments all the way to advanced musicianship. But that's exactly what I've had the privilege to do with YOLA. Watching the program grow from 85 students to nearly 600 in the past four years, I've led the same students in everything from simple arrangements of “Can Can” to “Firebird” at Walt Disney Concert Hall. That's stunning progress in any field. Seeing the pride on these young musicians' faces, and getting to know them and their families has been one of the most enriching experiences of my life.”

Elementary Honor Orchestra

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|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Alhambra, Arantxa | Green, Evan | Marshall, Sam |
| Alvarez, Samantha | Hall, Grant | Martini, Olivia |
| Apana, Maika | Hemmaty, Borna | Mason-Firth, Ethan |
| Bartlett, Kristin | Hernandez, Jessica | Masterson, Riley |
| Becerra, Irving | Hill, Kian | McNulty, Kylie |
| Bernstein, Rachel | Holmstrom, Lusa | Milchan, Maayan |
| Billingsley, Lavender | Hughes, Karis | Miles, Alexander |
| Bradley, Ava | Jesswein, Zane | Miles, Daniel |
| Brady, Charlie | Jimenez, Kimberly | Mitchell, Tabitha |
| Brady, Nola | Joshi, Maya | Nava, Cameron |
| Bruozis, Aurelija | Jusko, Caroline | Necci, Lucca |
| Cardenas, Isabella | Khalsa, Ram Rattan | Pacifici, Marco |
| Carroll, Emma | Kramarsky, Olivia | Parcells, Lily |
| Casillas-Castro, Tanya | Kroskirty, Anna | Peng, Derek |
| Chen, Connor | Lee, Ryan | Perkins, Sydney |
| Chugh, Rubani | Leff, Kai | Plank, Brianna |
| Collins, Joy | Lohr, Emma | Polard, Karla |
| Dayani, Etai | Lusitana, Sofia-Marie | Prado, Perla |
| Delgadillo, Brianna | MacDonald, Sofia | Ralls, Kaya |
| Evans, Audrialice | Madiraju, Dhruv | Ramirez-Hernandez, Melisa |
| Foster, Mia | Maniscalco, Sara | Ray, Ava |
| Garcia, Leslie | Mankoff, Lyla | Raymond, Alec |
| Germano, Giulia | Manuel-Perez, Amy | Romero, Diana |
| Gordon, Elizabeth Jean | | |

Middle School Orchestras

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Akiba, Ryunosuke | Chugh, Nanki | Hammersly, Eleanor |
| Al-Hardan, Aden | Colburn, Grace | Harvey, Oshean |
| Alexander, Grace | Cole, Tor | Helm, Sophia |
| Amirani, Rezvon | Danielson, Emma | Hinds, Gaia |
| Antich, Jack | Diaz, Perla | Hino, Ryan |
| Atwater-Insel, Kyle | Doby, Miraclestar | Hirji-Johnson, Emma |
| Blatt, Hannah | Downing, Caleb | Hoover, Katherine |
| Boetel, Lourdes | Dunn, Kelly | Houtman, Arno |
| Bone, Ari | Duppel, Kyralai | Hummer, Rose |
| Bonewitz, Joy | Dykstra, Makenna | Hunter, Logan |
| Bonilla, Samuel | Eguez, Donald | Hutchinson, Ian |
| Bordal, Rufus | Eliahou, Eden | Ichiyonagi, Kanoa |
| Botero, Seraphina | Farrahi, Athina | Jebef, Jack |
| Byrnes, Adam | Ferbas, Ashley | Jensen, Christopher |
| Caceres Navarrete, Teresa | Flanders, Bailey | Johnson, Hailey |
| Campos, Olen | Flanders, Isabel | Karni, Benjamin |
| Cantu, Christina | Gilman, Cyril | Kish, Russell |
| Carcano, Adele | Goldman, Emily | Kita, Rina |
| Chang, Ian | Gorak, Katie | Klein, Joshua |
| Chenevert, Eli | Grossman, Abigail | Kohut, Luna |
| Chu, Olivia | Grossman, Samuel | Kroskirty, Eleanor |

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|----------------------|
| Rosenblum, Sophie |
| Rothblatt, Dasha |
| Russo, Emily |
| Sakkour, Noah |
| Scott-Street, Violet |
| Shapouri, Layla |
| Siedleczka, Leonardo |
| Spennelli, John |
| Strutz, Patricia |
| Sudmann, Alex |
| Sudmann, Emma |
| Suh, Ashley |
| Taylor, Emily |
| Taylor, Victoria |
| Toidilla, Sebastian |
| Torres, Daniel |
| Tung, Kielor |
| Vargas, Christopher |
| Velasquez, Jasmin |
| Villafana, Naomi |
| Vorontsova, Ameliya |
| Yeskel, Sasha |
| Yera, Sophie |

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| Lamont, Ian |
| Lauto, Matteo |
| Lee, Peter |
| Liu, Yvonne |
| Lloyd, Adelaide |
| Lloyd, Ivor |
| Loftus, James |
| Lopez, Karen |
| Maier, Madison |
| Mamita, Rosha |
| Mancia, Noemi |
| Marazzi, Carina |
| Masom, Ocean |
| Matayoshi, Kotone |
| McCormick, James |
| McBreen, Phoebe |
| Meek, Madeline |
| Meyers, Tullie |
| Miyamoto, Delian |
| Morales, Guadalupe |
| Moss, Gavin |

Middle School Orchestras, continued from page 18

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Nadeau, Kathryn | Rafat, Lily | Shi, Michael |
| Nguyen, Mia | Ray, Tyler | Soonthornyanakij, Prueksarak |
| Paulsen, Joshua | Reynoso, Leo | Sorce, Luke |
| Paya, Reza | Ries, Cora | Stack, Tariq |
| Paymer, Julia | Rothstein, Rachel | Steigelfest, Alexandra |
| Perna, Amy | Sands, Charles | Stickney Prakasim, Grace |
| Peterson, Lars | Santi, Leonardo | Sturm, Anya |
| Peterson, Naomi | Schulz, Henrik | Tario, Emely |
| Petrouchin, Walter | Seizer, Daniel | Templeman, Yi-Mei |
| Ponthier, Olivia | Semler, Ronit | Thatcher, Samuel |
| Pooler, Juliet | Serrano-Guedea, Jordan | Tohyama, Alyssa |
| Popp, Kyle | Shapouri, Arya | Trevellin, Giulia |
| Rader, Harley | Shevick, Truman | Vickers, Jazz |

High School Orchestras

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Alvarez, Odalys | Goldberg, Claire | McBride, Liam | Sarantinos, Devin |
| Aron, Jack | Gordon, Camille | McConnell, Rachel | Schipper, Lowell |
| Bernstein, Mollie | Gordon, Julia | Milefchik, Isa | Shi, David |
| Billington, Francesca | Gordon, Linda | Miller, Madison | Shpayer, Nikita |
| Biraben, Matias | Gotler, Zach | Millett, Wilder | Sim, Danielle |
| Biren, Abe | Gumbel, Max | Milton, Daniel | Singer, Emily |
| Bordal, Finn | Harvey, Oshean | Mohammadi, Sasan | Smith, Caitlin |
| Bustos, Carlos | Himelfarb, Maria | Muldaur, Skyler | Stack, Farah |
| Byrnes, Michael | Ho, Caroline | Nagao, Akira | Steele, Emily |
| Campos, Lena | Ho, Jeffrey | Neven, Nicolas | Suzuki, Luna |
| Candaele, Helena | Horwitz-Hirsch, Isaac | Nickman, Sasha | Thatcher, Isabella |
| Cantu, Thomas | Horwitz-Hirsch, Sophie | Nicol, Ariana | Thomsen, Claire |
| Chachagua, Bryan | Huang, Serina | Oh, Jisuk | Tochitsky, Yana |
| Chenevert, Daniel | Jackson, Dylan | Ohanian, Sarah | Tran, Benjamin |
| Cheng, Victor | Katz, Zoe | Pak, Chris | Trinh, Daniel |
| Chwe, Hana | Kent, Michael | Parvis, Layla | Urbonaite, Egle |
| Cole, Hans | Kerekes, Emery | Pattarawuttivong, Sherryn | Villero, Lauren |
| Cole, Jens | Kinyon, Grace | Peterson, Sophie | Waring, Grace |
| Crowder, Zola | Kish, William | Pitsker, Jones | Watanabe, Rina |
| Crowley, Francesca | Kohut, Emma | Polon, Lyla | Weinberger, Tess |
| Cupp, Nicholas | Lajoie, Michelle | Pomerantz, Ava | Whitesell III, Charles |
| Daggy, Celia | Larkin, Mikaela | Probosz, Valentina | Wiland, Winona |
| Davalos Stanton, Glennon | Levine, Jacob | Quine, Cullen | Won, Mitchell |
| De beus, Camille | Lewis, Gemma | Reynolds, Amelia | Wuellner, Helen |
| Debiasse, Dorothy | Li, Baiyu | Ribe, Stephen | Yang, Catherine |
| Di Franco, Maria | Lin, David | Roberts, Ryan | Young, Hannah |
| Ferrarin, Christopher | Lin, Thomas | Ross, Rene | Young, Skyler |
| Gallagher, Emma | Lozano, Logan | Safrit, Sadie | Yuguchi, Emily |
| Gallagher, Molly | Lu, Helen | Safrit, Taylor | Zimmer, Max |
| Gold, Jake | MacCoby, Josh | | |

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2014 Stairway Honor Award

Lida Oliver Beasley was born in Hope, Arkansas. Her father, Ruel Oliver, was a band director first in Hope, and later in Nashville and in Texarkana. From an early age, Lida learned to play all the band instruments, brass, woodwinds, and percussion. She used to love playing the school's cornet, but her father made her sit on the bed when she played because he was afraid she would drop the cornet on the floor.

When it was time for college, Lida received a music scholarship to the University of North Texas. By this time, she was a virtuoso performer on euphonium, and she studied with John Haynie. After receiving her Bachelor's degree, she attended the University of Illinois, where she studied Music Education and received her Master's degree in 1957. It was during the time at Illinois that she married Rule Beasley, who was also a student there. Her first teaching experiences were in Denton, Texas, where the family (now including young John and Paul) moved in 1966.

Lida was Denton's high school band director for several years until a job offer came to take over both the band and orchestra at John Adams Junior High School in Santa Monica. She held this post with distinction until 1980, at which time she became the orchestra director at Santa Monica High School.

Her next and last teaching assignment came in 1985, at which time she was hired to create, from the very beginning, an orchestra at Santa Monica College. She did this with her usual brilliance and energy, founding and directing an orchestra, which has had a distinguished life even up to the present day. After eight years at SMC, she retired and moved with her husband, Rule, back to Texas, and then later to Oregon.

Among the many honors she earned throughout her career, Lida was awarded an EMMY for her role as director of the orchestra for a complete performance of Gounod's opera *Faust* at Santa Monica College in the summer of 1992.

Lida passed away in 2010. During her twenty years of orchestra conducting in Santa Monica, Lida performed, among many other works from the standard repertoire, the following: *Symphony No. 4* (Beethoven), *Symphony No. 5* (Beethoven), *Der Freischutz Overture* (Von Weber), *Pictures at an Exhibition* (Moussorgsky), *Sheherazade* (Rimsky-Korsakov), *Petroushka* (Stravinsky), *The Firebird* (Stravinsky), *Carnival of the Animals* (Saint-Saens),

Symphony No. 4 (Brahms), *Medea's Meditation and Dance of Death* (Barber), *Marche Slav* (Tchaikowsky), *Ride of the Valkyries* (Wagner), *Concerto for Cello* (Dvorak), *Piano Concerto No. 4* (Beethoven), *Piano Concerto No. 5* (Beethoven), *Symphonic Variations* (Franck), *Rhapsody in Blue* (Gershwin), *Concerto in F* (Gershwin), *An American in Paris* (Gershwin), *Concerto for Two Pianos* (Poulenc), *Overture to Candide* (Bernstein), *Mother Goose Suite* (Ravel), and *Rapsodie Espagnole* (Ravel).

Rule Curtis Beasley was born in Texarkana, Arkansas, where his grandfather had started a piano retail business in 1896, selling mostly Steinways. Rule's father kept the family business going until 1978. Rule attended Southern Methodist University and later both the University of Illinois and the Juilliard School in New York City, where he studied piano, composition, and woodwinds.

His teaching posts have included Centenary College in Shreveport, Louisiana, the University of North Texas in Denton, and Santa Monica College. Rule has had a variety of teaching areas over the years including piano, bassoon, composition, and jazz improvisation. He has also been active as a composer for orchestra, wind ensemble, jazz band, and chamber music. Since 1963, his original works have been performed at more than twenty universities in the United States. As a professional orchestra musician, he has been principal bassoon with the Fort Worth Symphony (five seasons) and the Santa Monica Symphony (twenty seasons). He has also been a member of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and the Dallas Wind Symphony.

Rule and Lida have two sons, John and Paul, and two grandchildren, Justin and Sierra. Paul is an attorney in Oregon, and John is an internationally renowned jazz pianist, composer, and recording artist.



Lida with John



John, Lida, and Rule

SMMUSD Music Teachers

Jason Aiello began teaching orchestra and piano at Santa Monica High School in 2006, after graduating with honors from UCLA as the recipient of the Joyce Fahlman Fellowship. While at UCLA, he studied music education with Dr. Frank Heuser, cello with Antonio Lysy, and worked as a cello coach and student teacher at Santa Monica High School. In addition to his work at Santa Monica High School, Mr. Aiello teaches cello and conducts the Sinfonia Orchestra for Elemental Strings, a youth orchestra program for elementary school students in Santa Monica. As a guest conductor, he has worked with honor orchestras sponsored by CMEA (California Association for Music Education) and SCSBOA (Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association). Currently, Mr. Aiello is serving as Past-President of the California Orchestra Directors Association, where his primary responsibilities have included creating and maintaining the CODA website, auditioning high school cellists for the CODA Honor Orchestras and California All-State Orchestra, and the establishment of the California Junior High All-State Orchestra.

Kirsten Bersch has been teaching Elementary Music in the SMMUSD since 2002. She holds a BA in Music Education from CSU Northridge and an MA in Music History and Literature from CSU Fullerton. Ms. Bersch is also a board member, coach, and former Program Director of Elemental Strings, a Santa Monica-based youth orchestra for elementary school string students. Ms. Bersch is a Samohi alumna and first came to Santa Monica as an exchange student from its sister city of Hamm, Germany. Outside of teaching, she spends most of her time in the great outdoors.

Bill Bixler graduated from high school in 1964, with four years' experience as a professional musician. He received his B.A. and teaching credential from CSU Fresno in 1969, specializing in woodwinds. He traveled with various musical groups until he began teaching in secondary schools in the Fresno area in 1972. In 1977, he became a partner in a nightclub that featured his band and national touring acts. Desiring a closer association with students, he obtained a teaching position at Malibu High. He also teaches privately and performs two to three times a week.

Cecile Blanchard graduated from UCLA with a B.A. in Vocal Performance and Music Education. She is a product of the fine music program in the SMMUSD, where she attended Madison Elementary School, John Adams Middle School, and Santa Monica High School. Cecile has performed with the

UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, St. Charles Borromeo and Hollywood Presbyterian Church Cathedral choirs and is an active member of the Southern California Vocal Association and the American Choral Directors' Association. She has taught music in the SMMUSD since 1990 and is proud to be teaching at her alma mater, John Adams Middle School.

Vanessa Counte has been the Choir Director at Lincoln Middle School since 2005. Mrs. Counte earned her BA in Music Education from Western Michigan University. At Western, she sang with Dr. Joe Miller and toured Italy, Romania and Bulgaria with the University Chorale. Prior to teaching at Lincoln, she taught choir in Michigan at both the high school and middle school level. Mrs. Counte also taught private voice lessons and was a soloist not only at Western but in the community as well. She is an active member of the American Choral Directors Association and the Southern California Vocal Association.

Jar-el Miki Cruz earned her Bachelor's degree in Music Education at California State University Northridge, where she studied violin with Michael Ferril. She is a member of the music department's honors society, *Pi Kappa Lambda*, and was awarded as one of the "outstanding student teachers of the year" in 2010. Fresh out of the credential program, Ms. Cruz worked as the assistant string orchestra director to Michael Stanley, at Burbank High School. Her passion for the creative arts recently led her into the UCLArts and Healing program where she attained certification in Social Emotional Arts Education. She began teaching elementary strings and chorus at SMMUSD in 2012.

Apryl Garcia is Assistant Director of Instrumental Music at John Adams Middle School where she is a 2010 PTSA Honorary Service Award recipient. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and her Single Subject Teaching Credential from UCLA. Mrs. Garcia has performed as a trombonist with the UCLA Philharmonic Orchestra and the UCLA Wind Ensemble. In July 2005, Mrs. Garcia served as a brass specialist with the inaugural UCLA Summer Music Academy and instructed many outstanding high school musicians from throughout the state. Mrs. Garcia is on an extended leave this year.

Jeffe Huls graduated with honors from California State University, Long Beach, where he studied voice with acclaimed tenor, Jonathan Mack. He began teaching in the SMMUSD in 1997 and, in 2001, he was honored as the Santa Monica Young

Music Teachers, continued

Educator of the Year. After six years at Lincoln Middle School, he left to earn his Master's Degree in Choral Conducting from Western Michigan University, where he conducted the Concert Choir, taught voice classes, assisted with the choral program, and studied with Joe Miller (now of Westminster Choir College). In 2005, Mr. Huls returned to the school district and became Director of Vocal Music at Santa Monica High School. He was honored by the Los Angeles Music Center in 2012 with the BRAVO arts educator award. Mr. Huls also conducts the Concert Chorale at Santa Monica College and serves on the board of the Southern California Vocal Association. He continues to teach voice, give workshops on choral music literacy, and mentor young music educators.

Mark Hunt has been Director Bands at Lincoln Middle School since 2000. Originally from Texas, he has been teaching at the elementary and secondary levels since 1992. Mark graduated with honors from the University of North Texas with a B.M.E. As a French horn player he performed with the Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, and served as drum major with the UNT marching band. Mr. Hunt earned a Master of Music Education degree at the University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana). He is currently working on his Administrative Services credential.

Susan Justin is proud to be part of the Elementary Music staff for our noteworthy district. After ten years as Music Specialist at Roosevelt, she now spreads the wealth of what she has learned with six other schools. A graduate of UCLA, with a degree in Music Education and Piano Performance, Ms. Justin served as staff accompanist and vocal coach at Santa Monica College for ten years. As an American Field Service foreign exchange student, she studied abroad at the Royal Danish Conservatory of Music and is currently a member of the Southern California Orff Schulwerk Chapter. Ms. Justin has enjoyed a parallel career as a documentary film composer for such networks as TBS, TNT, Lifetime and PBS.

Amy Loch received her bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. While attending the University of Nebraska, she was a member of the University Singers and the Scarlet and Cream Singers. This is Mrs. Loch's sixth year teaching grade 6-12 choral music at Malibu High School. Prior to coming to MHS, she taught vocal music at Papillion Jr. High and Gretna High School in Nebraska, and at Northwood High School in North Carolina. She has sung with the Durham Vocal Arts Ensemble, the Duke Chapel Choir and the Sacramento Choral Society.

Bonnie Lockrem received her B.M. and M.Mu.Ed from USC as most outstanding music education graduate. Mrs. Lockrem has taught in the SMMUSD since 1973 and has served as instrumental music director at Malibu Park Junior High, coordinator of Stairway and head of the elementary music department. She currently teaches elementary music at eight schools. Mrs. Lockrem is adjunct music faculty at Pepperdine University, plays violin professionally, is founder/director of the Malibu Music Seminar, conducts youth symphonies, presents clinics, has served as CMEA Orchestra representative, and is currently secretary for CalASTA. She is past President and Lt. Governor of Optimist International and has earned Malibu Outstanding Educator, Malibu Dolphin, PTA Honorary Service, SCSBOA Outstanding Educator, and the CMEA Southern Section 2004 Outstanding Music Educator Awards.

Kevin O. McKeown became Director of Bands in 2012, after teaching for over a decade in the SMMUSD at the elementary and middle school level. His concert groups have received unanimous Superiors at SCSBOA Festival, and "Sweepstakes" Awards for Marching Band competitions. In 2013, the Samohi Wind Ensemble was the only high school featured as a "showcase" ensemble at the Chicago International Music Festival, in a collaboration with Chris Martin, principal trumpet of the CSO. A proud alumnus of the district, Mr. McKeown earned a B.A. in music education and M.M. in instrumental conducting from the University of California, Los Angeles. While at UCLA he was a 4 year drum major of the UCLA Bruin Marching Band, and later became the Graduate Associate Conductor of the UCLA Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band, under the mentoring of Dr. Thomas Lee. Mr. McKeown is on faculty at Santa Monica College and the University of California, Irvine, as conductor of Wind Ensembles. He has held positions at CSULA, CSUN, and Long Beach City College. and is an active guest conductor and clinician throughout California. In the fall of 2013 he was invited by Dr. Laurence Stoffel to guest conduct the CSUN Wind Symphony. Mr. McKeown is an active member of SCSBOA, CBDA, MACCC, CBDNA, and WASBE.

Salvador Muñoz graduated from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona with a BA in Music Education, BA in Spanish, MA in Education, and also received a Preliminary Administrative Services Credential. Before joining the SMMUSD family, he taught junior high and elementary band for eight years with the Baldwin Park Unified School District where he received much recognition for the success of his junior high band. Mr. Muñoz is honored to be a part of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

Music Teachers, continued

Sean Pawling has been teaching in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District since 2011. He holds a B.A. in Music from UCLA, and an M.M. from the USC Thornton School of Music. Mr. Pawling later accepted a special invitation to attend The Colburn School, where he was instructed by Mark Lawrence. In addition to being a trombonist, Mr. Pawling is an active singer-songwriter/guitarist and is currently finishing his first full-length album. You may have seen him in his "Trombone Alpine Skiing" YouTube video, which currently has one million views and counting.

Lindsay Quiroz (Mrs. "Q") received her Bachelor's of Science Degree in Music Education from New York University in 2004 with a double emphasis in Voice and French Horn. While studying at NYU, she had the opportunity to perform on some of the most famous stages in New York including Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and with The Metropolitan Opera. Since her return to California, she has enjoyed teaching music in Los Angeles in a variety of capacities while completing her Master's Degree in Music Education from Boston University's Distance Ed program. Lindsay was overjoyed to join the SMMUSD team in 2012 as a vocal and instrumental instructor and looks forward to participating in her second *Stairway to the Stars* Concert this year with the Honor Choir.

Steven Ravaglioli graduated from USC with a B.S. in Business in 1980 and an M.M.Ed. in Music in 1997. Mr. Ravaglioli is a Real Estate Broker for his own real estate company, S R Realty, in Malibu, since 1984. Within the music profession, he is a member of the American Federation of Musicians Local 47 Professional Musicians Union, has been a brass specialist at Malibu Park Middle School, plays trumpet professionally in Southern California, and taught Brass Pedagogy, Jazz Ensemble, and Pep Band at Pepperdine University. In addition, he is a brass clinician, teaches privately, has taught various instrumental ensembles through the Malibu Music Seminar, and has taught music in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District since 1992. Mr. Ravaglioli is a past Double Distinguished President of the Malibu Optimist Club, a 1999 Malibu Times Dolphin award for community service, the 2009 Malibu Music Educator of the Year, and the recipient of the 2012 CMEA Alfred Publishing Elementary Music Specialist Award.

Terry Sakow was appointed Director of Bands at Samohi in the fall of 1990. Under the guidance of Gerald Anderson, Dr. Thomas Lee, and Gordon Henderson, he received his B.A. in Music from UCLA in 1989. In the spring of 1990, he was a student teacher under Christopher Schwabe at Lincoln Middle

School. In 1997, he earned a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. The Viking Marching Band, under his leadership, participated in the 4th of July Parade in Washington, DC, in 2003, and was featured with the National Symphony in the televised "Capital Fourth Celebration." He also led the Marching Band in the 2009 London New Year's Day Parade. During his tenure at Samohi, he has directed the Samohi Wind Ensemble in performances at Carnegie Hall and Chicago Symphony Hall, as well as several performances at CMEA and CBDA conventions. His ensembles continue to receive top honors at SCSBOA festivals and competitions.

Jessi Spike-Gravelle started working in the SMMUSD as a vocal and general music specialist in 2000, after ten years as a private music instructor in the Santa Monica and West Los Angeles area. She currently directs elementary and middle school choir, in addition to teaching elementary instrumental music. Ms. Spike Gravelle is a member of Southern California Vocal Association, the American Choral Directors' Association, the Music Teachers Association of California, and the California Music Educators' Association. A graduate of both UCLA and CSUN, Ms. Spike Gravelle is also the proud co-owner and founder of the Santa Monica Academy of Music, a community music school now celebrating its seventeenth year serving the music students of Santa Monica and adjacent environs. Helping to create and grow both the SMMUSD elementary chorus program and the SMASH middle school chorus program during her time with the district has been an especially rewarding endeavor.

Joni Swenson became Director of Orchestras at Santa Monica High School in 2001 and is proud to be a part of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. A graduate of UCLA, she taught in the Sacramento City Unified School District and in the San Jose Unified School District prior to her position at Samohi. Mrs. Swenson has served as guest conductor for many honor orchestras throughout California and has presented sessions at both the CMEA State and Bay Section Conferences, as well as at the Southern California School Band and Orchestra (SCSBOA) Fall Conference. In addition, she has served as the Orchestra Representative in both CMEA Capitol and Bay Sections and is also a Past President of the California Orchestra Directors Association (CODA). In 2001, Mrs. Swenson was selected by San Francisco radio station KDFC Classical 102.1 as Music Educator of the Year. In 2004, she received the CMEA Le Blanc Outstanding Orchestra Music Educator Award, and she was selected as a finalist for the Los Angeles Music Center's BRAVO Award in 2008.

Music Teachers, continued

Jessica Swift is Interim Assistant Director of Instrumental Music at John Adams Middle School. In 2011, she joined the elementary music faculty in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, providing instruction to beginning band and orchestra students at the seven elementary school sites in the city of Santa Monica. She has previously served as Director of Jazz Band II and Assistant Band Director with the Marching Band at Santa Monica High School. Ms. Swift holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Colorado, at Boulder. She earned a Master of Music from UCLA, with a dual concentration in Wind Band Conducting and French Horn Performance. While at UCLA, Ms. Swift served as a Graduate Teacher Assistant for the UCLA Bands, under the mentorship of Professor Thomas Lee. Ms. Swift is currently Director of Elemental Band, in Santa Monica, and is Assistant Conductor with the Santa Monica College Emeritus Band. She has conducted at Walt Disney Concert Hall with the Westside Summer Honor Band and enjoys a variety of performance opportunities within the greater Los Angeles area.

Bruce Tellier has been an elementary instrumental music teacher since 1987 and has been honored to serve as co-coordinator of *Stairway of the Stars* for several years. A skilled composer and arranger of music for student ensembles, Mr. Tellier has provided pieces that have been performed throughout our district and at Stairway. He has also co-authored an instrumental method book for beginning instrumental students.

Jim Wang has been Director of Orchestras at Lincoln Middle School since 2011. As a native from Southern California, Mr. Wang was the Strings Director for all of Rowland Unified School District in Rowland Heights, California and also taught private violin and viola lessons for seven years before coming to Lincoln Middle School. As a performer, Mr. Wang is an active violinist/violist and performs with various groups and ensembles in and around the Los Angeles and Orange County areas. Mr. Wang earned his Master's degree in Music Education at the University of Southern California. Prior to that, he graduated with honors from Biola University in La Mirada, California with a Bachelors of Music degree in Violin Performance.

Tom Whaley has been the SMMUSD Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator since 2001, and the Samohi Jazz Band

Director since 2005. Before coming to the district, he directed middle and high school bands in Burbank and Morro Bay, and his ensembles have won many awards in Band Festivals throughout the state. He has been featured in the Los Angeles Times and has received both the Burbank Mayor's Commendation and the Crystal Apple Award sponsored by NBC. He earned a B.A. in Music Education from Boston's Berklee College of Music, a M.A. from the University of Miami in Traditional Performance, and a M.A. in Educational Administration from CSULA. He is also a professional trombonist, and has performed in numerous motion picture, television, and recording sessions. From 2005-07 he served as the jazz representative to the California Music Educators Association.

Angela Woo is in her nineteenth year as Director of Instrumental Music at John Adams Middle School where the Wind Ensemble (the advanced level band) was selected as the only middle school concert band in the state to perform at the 2011 California All-State Music Education Conference. An alumna of UCLA, Ms. Woo earned the B.A. in Music Education and Piano Performance, the M.Ed. in Education, and the M.F.A in Conducting. She also holds the M.A. in Educational Administration from CSUN. Ms. Woo has been invited to serve as a clinician and adjudicator with various national festivals and conducting symposiums, and has conducted regional honor groups and All-State bands around the country, including those in Wisconsin, Kentucky, Georgia, Florida, Oregon, California, and Colorado. Ms. Woo was recognized by the Santa Monica Rotary Club as the 2005 SMMUSD District Teacher of the Year, and is a 2012 Legion of Honor Laureate by the John Philip Sousa National Foundation. Next week, Ms. Woo will conduct the 2014 California All-State Jr. High Concert Band as a part of the California All-State Music Education Conference.

Maia Zander holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in violin performance from Boston University, where she was concertmaster of the University orchestra on tour at Carnegie Hall. She has served on the faculty of the Boston Youth Symphony, Suzuki Strings of Madison, the Brookline Extension School, and taught instrumental education classes for Music Education majors at Boston University. She has been teaching orchestra and AP music theory at Malibu High School since 2010.

We Are Proud of All of Our Students!

Cheyenne, we are so proud of your musical accomplishments. We love you! Love, Marc, Mom, Dakota and your family

Hi Sam Kohn. We are so proud of you and your trumpet playing. Love, Mom, Dad and Franky

Bryant: Your Sister and I are so very proud of you! Have a wonderful time. We love you – Briney and Mom

Congratulations Keira Lynch! Sing Strong! We are so proud of you! Much Love, Dad, Mom and Cameron

Congratulations to Isabella and Lily Niven – Love, Mom and Dad

Matteo, let your music take you places your dreams come from. Close your eyes and I will be there. Mamma.

We are so proud of you Ethan Mason-Firth Love Mum Dad and Gracie x

Angel we are proud of you!! We love you!!

Dariush, don't B flat but C sharp! We hope your life is always filled with music and harmony! Love, M&D

Caley, when you sing it is a confirmation that you were once an angel singing in heaven, we love you!

Dear Christopher, You have worked hard and we can't wait to hear you perform. We love you, Papa and Mama

Dear Nicolas, Keep up the good work! We are excited to hear you perform. We love you, Papa and Mama

MAAYAN :) We love you!!!! Your family

Marvelous job, Olivia! You worked hard and we couldn't be more proud. Love, Mom, Dad & Josie

Bradley & Michael–Congratulations on yet another combined Stairway concert! So thrilled to watch you both perform. Love, Mom & Dad

WE LOVE YOU SKYLER! – From Mom & Frankie

Dear Dora! We are so proud of you! Congratulations! Love, your family xo

Hayden and Avery– Thank you for bringing music into our lives in so many wonderful ways! With love, Mom and Dad

Sarah, I am so proud of you for facing this challenge and doing such a beautiful job! You are a lovely singer. Much love, Mom

Congratulations Charlie Brady!

To Henry Perez – We are so proud of you. You are amazing! Love Dad, Mom & Jack

Dear Lars, Congratulations on making honor band, and thank you for filling our house with beautiful music...we love you more than pizza!! XOXO, Mom, Dad & =°°=

Ryan & Kole, You amaze us all the time and we couldn't be more proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom, & Kaitlyn

Samantha Rose, you are magic when you sing. We are so proud of you every day for a million reasons. This is the best! Love Mom, Dad, Charlotte & the zoo crew.

Congratulations Jackson – we are proud of you! Love, your family

Hal'ia, we are in love with you and your many talents... Have fun and te adoramos! Mami, Dadi, and Ea'sus

Dear Emily, You were great! We are so proud of you and love you very much! Love, Mom, Dad, William and Lucy

Congratulations Makenna! We are so proud of you! You are such a special person! Keep reaching for the stars! Love, Mom, Dad and Lily

Connor, we are excited to hear you and your friends play tonight. We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad

You have worked so hard for this, we are all so proud of you, Eve! Love, Mom, Dad & Cameron

Congratulations on a job well done! We love you and are so proud of you. XO, Mom, Dad and Adam

Morgan: Congratulations on your performance. We're so proud of you. Keep up the good work. Love, Mom, Dad & Trombone Shorty

Max ~ We love to see you play your sax! You make us proud. XO Mom, Dad, Sam, Mia & Macy

Way to go Robbie! Your Dads are very proud of you!

Paola, We are so proud of all your achievements. Keep up the great work! We love you, Mom & Dad

Katie Hoover – Stairway rocks and so do you!! Love, Dad, Mom & Joey :)

Hailey, Congratulations – We're so proud of you...

Love, Mom, Dad, Taylor & Bryce

Congratulations, Bryce! We are so proud of you. Sutton Wills Family

Congratulations, Ava Bradley! We love you to the moon & back.

Evan, We are so proud of you! You have worked very hard. Continue to bring that sweet music into our home.

We love you! Mom, Dad & Caden

Congratulations Chloe Kaufman! You are such a talented, smart and all around amazing girl... We are so proud of you!!!

Love, Mommy, Daddy and Hayley

DECLAN MURPHY: The journey from your 1st practice in 4th grade until now has been remarkable. Keep believing in yourself & great things will happen. We love you!

Abby, Will, and Karina Wisen keep reaching for the stars! We are proud of your achievements tonight and always.

Sophie, We are all so proud of your musical talent and love hearing you play! XOXO, Mommy & Daddy

Sam Nahass, We are so proud of you! You are a great musician. Love, Mom & Dad

Congratulations to you, IAN BONHAM! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments! Love, Lucas, Mom and Dad

John & Will, We are so proud of your musical accomplishments. What a treat to watch you both perform tonight! Love, Mom & Dad

Josh T, You have grown so much as a musician and we are very proud of you! Mom & Dad

Congratulations Susanna. We are so proud of you! Congratulations JAMS Wind Ensemble musicians and wonderful faculty.

The Wise family

Kobe – your voice is beautiful and we are so proud of you! Love, Dad, Mom and Emi

Congratulations Isabel on a wonderful accomplishment! You are an amazing singer and we love you very much. XOXOXO Mom, Dad, Grace and the entire family

LAYLA: You are amazing. We love you so much and are so proud of you. Much love, Shabnam & Masoud

Congratulations Cameron! We are very proud of you and applaud your hard work and effort. We hope you will always enjoy your music.

Love you, Mom and Dad

Congratulations Rachel Rothstein!! "You're a shining star, no matter who you are; shining bright to see what you can truly be." Love, Mom, Dad, & Amanda

Stairway Acknowledgments

Thank you to the **Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education** and to the SMMUSD administration, headed by **Superintendent Sandra Lyon** and **Assistant Superintendent Dr. Terry Deloria**, for their support of the district's music program.

Appreciation goes to the **SMMUSD music teachers, staff, parents and volunteers**, without whose talent and enthusiasm there would be no performance this evening.

Thank you to the **administrators, teachers and staff at Grant Elementary School** for hosting the auditions, and to **Franklin Elementary School** and **John Adams Middle School** for hosting the rehearsals. Special thanks to the **Elementary Honor group parents** for all their help and support during the rehearsals, and for chaperoning the students on their upcoming Disneyland trip.

Our thanks goes to **Santa Monica High School Principal Eva Mayoral** and to the **Barnum Hall theatre operations staff** – Carey Upton, Jan Strnad, Dave McCrum, and Luca Capra – for facilitating the use of this beautiful and historic auditorium.

Most importantly, we'd like to thank our **talented students**. Your work is applauded tonight, and we are all so proud of you. We would especially like to recognize the seniors – the Santa Monica High School and Malibu High School Class of 2014.

The **Stairway volunteer team**, who worked with Educational Services Administrative Assistant Brenda Carrillo, are:

Tickets – Alisa F. Stewart, Diane Reynolds, Eirlys McKenzie

Stairway Online Forms – Holly Wiland

Reception Coordinators – Lori Nafshun and Allison Diftler

Usher Coordinators – Grace Akazawa,

Amber Blaise, and Scott Ferguson

VIP Section Coordinator – Shari Davis

Program – Bill Josephs, Zina Josephs, and Alisa F. Stewart

Stairway Logo and Program Cover – Josh Freeman

Thank you to the **Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation (SMMEF)** for its support of all SMMUSD students, and of the Visual and Performing Arts programs in the SMMUSD. The Education Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all students in Santa Monica and Malibu public schools. Since 1982, SMMEF has raised millions of dollars to support programs at every school in the district in academics, the arts, and athletics through permanent endowed funds, special events, and fund-raising campaigns. The Education Foundation is charged with raising \$4 million annually to fund the SMMUSD Vision for Student Success, which will first be implemented in the 2014-15

school year. The Vision for Student Success includes a broader arts program for elementary school students, including Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade Visual and Performing Arts programs, as well as 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade Visual Arts program (in addition to the district-funded 3rd through 5th grade Music program).

We owe a debt of gratitude to the **Santa Monica City Council** and the **Malibu City Council** for their continued support of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, and for the Santa Monica City Council's support of the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation "For The Arts" Endowment.

The **Gail Dorin Music Foundation** is a privately funded foundation that depends on donors both within the SMMUSD community and beyond. It was established in 1994 in memory of Gail Dorin, a district parent who valued music performance and education as a road map to a successful school experience. The Foundation's "Dream Strings" program provides 4th and 5th graders at the Title I schools free instrumental music assistance from highly qualified music instructors during class time once or twice a week. Donations may be sent to the Gail Dorin Music Foundation at 616 23rd Street, Santa Monica, 90402.

The **Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation** is a generous supporter of the "Dream Strings" and "Dream Winds" programs. The Foundation also supports the jazz band, choir, and orchestra programs at Santa Monica High School. In 2012-13, it began funding the "Dream Voice" program in the Title I schools and, as a result, a larger number of choral students have been able to participate in the Elementary Honor Choir.

Artists For the Arts Foundation and the band **Venice**, with yearly benefit concerts, help fund music classes at Olympic High School, as well as the "Dream Winds" and "Dream Strings" music programs at the Title I elementary schools.

VH-1 Save the Music Foundation has, in past years, provided approximately \$200,000 worth of guitars, wind and string instruments, as well as books and instrument cases for students at the Title I schools and at Malibu, Olympic, and Santa Monica High Schools.

Booster Organizations support the music programs in the Malibu and Santa Monica middle and high schools.

Since 1997, the Board-appointed **SMMUSD Visual and Performing Arts District Advisory Committee (VAPA DAC)** has supported the implementation of PreK-12 arts education as an integral part of the core curriculum offered to all SMMUSD students. The DAC provides Mid-Year and Year-End reports and recommendations to the Board of Education.

Stairway Acknowledgments

John Adams Middle School

Angela Woo, *Director of Instrumental Music,*

Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair

Cecile Blanchard, *Vocal Music*

Apryl Garcia, *Asst. Director of Instrumental Music*

Jessica Swift, *Interim Asst. Director of Instrumental Music*

Sean Garnreiter, *Instructional Assistant*

Galina Baskina, *Accompanist*

Coaches: Emily Call, Grace Hsu,

Dr. Josephine Liu Moerschel, Chris Parise, Jennifer Roth,

Peter Senchuk, and Dr. Meghan Turner

Lincoln Middle School

Mark Hunt, *Director of Bands,*

Visual and Performing Arts Department Chair

Vanessa Counte, *Director of Choirs*

Jim Wang, *Director of Orchestras*

Heather Klenk, *Instructional Assistant, Bands*

Colleen Ruddy, *Instructional Assistant, Orchestras*

Anya Ivanova, *Choir Accompanist*

Coaches: Stephen Dress, Karolina Naziemiec,

Teag Reaves, Peter Senchuck and Kelly Weaver

SMASH Middle School

Jessi Spike-Gravelle,

Salvador Muñoz, and Robbie Anderson

Malibu Middle School and Malibu High School

William Bixler, *Band Director*

Amy Loch, *Choir Director*

Maia Zander, *Orchestra Director*

Sarah Reichenthal, *Music Assistant*

Joellen McNaughton, *Choir Accompanist*

Olympic High School

Mark Harris, *Guitar & World Drumming*

Santa Monica High School

Jeffe Huls, *Director of Vocal Music and*

Performing Arts Chair

Kevin McKeown, *Director of Bands*

Terry Sakow, *Director of Bands*

Joni Swenson, *Director of Orchestra*

Jason Aiello, *Asst. Orchestra Director*

Tom Whaley, *Jazz Band Director*

Sean Pawling, *Jazz Band II Director*

Luis Villegas, *Guitar Instructor*

Mark Harris, *Guitar Instructor*

Naomi Sato, *Instructional Aide*

Inna Ganelis, *Choir Accompanist*

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Janece Maez, *Asst. Supt., Chief Financial Officer*

Debra Moore Washington,

Asst. Supt., Human Resources

Dr. Terry Deloria, *Asst. Supt., Educational Services*

Dr. Ellen Edeburn and Irene Gonzalez-Castillo,

Directors of Curriculum & Instruction

SMMUSD Visual & Performing Arts Department

Tom Whaley, *Coordinator*

Brenda Carrillo, *Administrative Assistant*

Elementary Schools Music Faculty

Kirsten Bersch

Miki Cruz

Susan Justin

Bonnie Lockrem

Salvador Muñoz

Lindsay Quiroz

Sean Pawling

Steven Ravaglioli

Jessi Spike-Gravelle

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